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TOT: 080103Z DEC 77

DIRECTOR 135665

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STAFF 080103Z DIRECTOR 135665
TO: IMMEDIATE ~~MEXICO CITY.~~

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WNINTEL RNVIEW MHSPLASH

REF: DIRECTOR 135229

1. ON 7 DECEMBER THREE MEXICO DESK OFFICERS REVIEWED 38 FBI FOLDERS ON LEE HARVEY OSWALD WHICH WERE AMONG DOCUMENTS RELEASED ON FOIA THAT SAME DAY. COPIES OF ALL SIGNIFICANT DOCUMENTS BEARING ON MEXICO WERE MADE AND WILL BE POUCHEO TO ~~STATION~~ ASAP. IN GENERAL VAST MAJORITY OF DOCUMENTS UNCONTROVERSIAL, AND DEAL WITH INVESTIGATION OF OSWALD'S TRIP TO MEXICO, ALL OF WHICH IS ALREADY IN PUBLIC DOMAIN, PRINCIPALLY IN WARREN COMMISSION REPORT.

2. MOST POTENTIALLY DAMAGING DOCUMENT FOUND TO DATE IS FOLLOWING 27 NOV 1963 MEMORANDUM FROM A.H. BELMONT TO ONE MR. TOLSON: "ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SULLIVAN CALLED TO ADVISE THAT CIA HAS INFORMED US THAT MEXICAN AUTHORITIES HAVE ARRESTED SYLVIA DURAN, JUST AS SHE WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE FOR CUBA. CIA WANTED TO KNOW IF WE OBJECTED TO MEXICAN AUTHORITIES INTERROGATING DURAN VIGOROUSLY AND EXHAUSTIVELY. WE AGREED TO THIS INTERROGATION. THEY WILL GIVE US THE RESULTS OF THE INTERROGATION PROMPTLY. SYLVIA DURAN IS THE MEXICAN NATIONAL WHO WORKED IN THE CUBAN CONSULATE WHO REPORTED THAT OSWALD HAD BEEN IN THE CONSULATE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER AND ON OCTOBER 1, 1963, TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IN GETTING A VISA FOR RUSSIA."

3. DESK OFFICERS PLAN TO COMPLETE REVIEW OF "OSWALD" FOLDERS 8 DECEMBER. WILL ALSO BEGIN REVIEW OF "BORDER OPERATIONS" FOLDERS TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE ITEMS REFERRED TO IN MEXICO CITY 43148.

4. UNO MAS UNO" JOURNALIST RAYMUNDO RUA (SIC) PALACIOS, WAS ALSO IN FBI READING ROOM 7 DECEMBER AND CHECKED OUT FIVE FOLDERS ON THE OSWALD CASE.

5. FILE: 200-120-150. E2, IMPDET.
ORIG: LA/MGSB/M (T. CHAMBERLIN X1034); COORD: PCS/LSN (KUHN),
DC/LA/N (DESMOND); AUTH: C/LA/MGSB (HAWKINS); REL: C/LA (WARREN);
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